

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-10 and 18-20 are pending in the application; Claims 7-9 are amended; Claims 18-20 are added; and Claims 1-6 and 11-17 have been indicated as being withdrawn in accordance with the preceding restriction requirement. Support for amended Claims 7-9 and new Claims 18-20 can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.<sup>1</sup> No new matter is presented.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Akester et al. (WO 97/37499, hereinafter "Akester").

Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claims 7 and 9 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the prior art of record.

Amended Claim 7 relates to a method for using an interface of an information-processing apparatus to input parameters relating to a first transmission destination, a second transmission destination and a criterion for selecting either the first and second transmission destination for receiving information from an information-presenting apparatus. A non-limiting exemplary depiction of the interface is shown in Figure 8. Using this interface, a user is able to select various transmission destinations such as, for example, mail, fax, and short message, etc.

The information-processing apparatus of Claim 7 also includes a transmission controller configured to control the transmission of information relating to the first transmission destination, the second transmission destination and the criterion for selecting each of the first and second transmission destinations to an information-presenting apparatus. In this way, a user of the information-processing apparatus can register, with the information-

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<sup>1</sup> See e.g., specification at page 5, lines 3-6, page 19, lines 21-24, and Figure 6.

presenting apparatus, the transmission destination information and various criterion, as depicted in Figure 8, to control transmission of messages from the information-presenting apparatus to the information-processing apparatus.

The information-processing apparatus of amended Claim 7 allows a user to send various personalized parameters to an information-presenting apparatus so that specified information may be transmitted from the information-presenting apparatus to the user based on the user's personal preferences. Claim 7 is further amended to recite that the information-presenting apparatus is configured to store commodity information corresponding to a geographic location. This feature allows the information-presenting apparatus to send information to the user that is customized based on the information-processing apparatus user's location and the criteria information input at the information processing device.

Specifically, amended Claim 7 recites, *inter alia* an information-processing apparatus...

“... wherein said information-presenting apparatus is configured to store commodity information corresponding to a geographic location.”

Turning to the applied reference, Akester describes a call routing method in which a personal number user (PNU) has an associated profile and by filling out a questionnaire the user can predetermine a number of periods in the day and the respective destination terminal numbers to which a user's incoming calls can be diverted.<sup>2</sup> Akester describes, for example, that the PNU may have a defined profile for a weekday pattern of diverting calls to various different terminals related to the same PNU during specified time periods of the day.<sup>3</sup> Akester further describes that a specialized database system (SDS) (22) may contain respective user profiles (24) for users of a personal numbering service (PNS), and a profile management system (PMS) (26). Also, Akester's describes that that the PMS (26), upon

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<sup>2</sup> Akester at page 1, lines 21-24.

<sup>3</sup> Akester at page 1, lines 24-28.

receipt of the information indicating the outcome of the call, can select the next highest confidence value (CV) which indicates a second terminal to which to attempt the call.<sup>4</sup>

As cited above, amended Claim 1 recites that the information-presenting apparatus is configured to store *commodity information corresponding to a geographic location*. In contrast, Akester simply diverts and routes calls to different user's terminals on the network at different parts of the day as specified by the user. However, at no point does Akester describe that any information is stored in an information-presenting apparatus which relates to commodity information corresponding to a specified geographic location.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn. For substantially the same reasons as given with respect to amended Claim 7, Applicants also submit that amended Claim 9 patentably distinguishes over Akester.

New Claims 18-20 relate to an apparatus, method and computer program product for inputting information to a information providing apparatus, the input information corresponding to a destination to which user-specific information is transferred and a user's personal preferences. Claims 18-20 also recite the features of registering this information with an information presenting apparatus, and notifying the information providing apparatus of location information and receiving, from the information providing apparatus, the user-specific information generated using at least the information corresponding to the user's personal preferences and the location information.

Akester fails to teach or suggest the transmission of location specific information from the information processing apparatus to the information providing apparatus whatsoever. Further, Akester fails to teach or suggest an information-processing apparatus configured to received, from the information-providing apparatus user-specific information

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<sup>4</sup> Akester at column 7, lines 1-11.

generated using at least the information corresponding to the user's personal preferences and the location information.

Accordingly, for at least the above-mentioned reasons, Applicants submit that new Claims 18-20 also patentably define over Akester.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 7-10 and 18-20 is patentably distinguishing over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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